

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 3-4, 7, and 12 as follows:

1: (Currently Amended) A device for providing anti-reflux comprising: at least one part providing a valve seat, and a valve element defining an outer contour formed from a sheet-shaped material blank, said valve element including at least one connecting portion and a flap portion and defining a longitudinal direction extending between the connecting portion and the flap portion, and retaining means for retaining the valve element with respect to the device, said retaining means being integral with the device, ~~characterized in that the connecting portion includes~~ including a hook-shaped engagement means section formed integrally with the valve element for engagement with said retaining means, the valve element projecting a coherent plane.

2: (Original) A device according to claim 1, for providing anti-reflux in a body fluid drainage and/or sampling system.

3: (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 1, wherein the hook-shaped engagement means section is formed from an ~~include at least one~~ incision in said outer contour, said ~~at least one~~ incision extending substantially transverse with respect to said longitudinal direction, ~~said at least one incision being~~ at the transition between the flap portion and the connecting portion.

4: (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 3, ~~including wherein the hook-shaped engagement section is formed from~~ two incisions.

5: (Previously Presented) A device for providing anti-reflux comprising: at least one part providing a valve seat, and a valve element defining an outer contour formed from a sheet-shaped material blank, said valve element including at least one connecting portion and a flap portion and defining a longitudinal direction extending between the connecting portion and the flap portion, and retaining means for retaining the valve element with respect to the device, said

retaining means being integral with the device, characterized in that the connecting portion includes engagement means formed integrally with the valve element for engagement with said retaining means, the valve element projecting a coherent plane, wherein the engagement means include at least one incision, said at least one incision extending substantially transverse with respect to said longitudinal direction, said at least one incision being at the transition between the flap portion and the connecting portion and said engagement means include a hook-shaped section positioned outwards of said at least one incision with respect to said longitudinal direction.

6: (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 1, in which said outer contour forms a curve defining a continuously advancing function on a respective side of the longitudinal direction.

7: (Currently Amended) A device as claimed in claim 1, in which said hook-shaped engagement means ~~are~~ section is formed within said outer contour.

8: (Original) A device as claimed in claim 7, in which said engagement means are provided as at least one slit the sheet-shaped material.

9: (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 1, wherein said engagement means are formed integrally in said outer contour.

10: (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 2, in which the body fluid is urine.

11: (Original) A device as claimed in claim 10, wherein said valve seat providing part constitutes a connector for connection with a urinary catheter, forms part of a hose in said system or of a sample port device.

12: (Currently Amended) A valve element including at least one connecting portion and a flap portion and defining a longitudinal direction extending between the connecting portion and the

~~flap portion, and with the connecting portion including a hook-shaped engagement means section~~
~~integrally formed in the valve element, characterized in that and the valve element including the~~
~~engagement means projects a coherent plane.~~

13: (Cancelled)

14: (Withdrawn) A method of manufacturing a valve element, the method comprising:

defining a planar valve outer contour having an integral connection portion, a flap portion, and engagement means

separating the defined planar profile from a sheet-shaped material blank so that the resultant valve projects coherent plane within the outer contour.

15: (Withdrawn) A method of manufacturing a valve element having a connection portion, a flap portion, and engagement means integrally in the valve element comprising the step of cutting the valve element along one closed line in a sheet-shaped material blank; and cutting at least one slit in the sheet-shaped material without generating waste material from within a perimeter of the closed line cut.

16: (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 14, in which said outer contour is formed along a curve defining a continuously advancing function on a respective side of the longitudinal direction.

17: (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 14, in which separating includes punching, stamping or die-cutting the sheet shaped material blank.

18: (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 14, in which separating includes a rolling cut about the contour.

19: (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 14, in which separating includes cutting by means of a laser beam or a water stream.

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20: - 22: (Cancelled)